The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 30 OF 2016

WHEREAS, Marion Deppen is a graduate of Penn State University with a BS in Agricultural Economics and the University of Wisconsin with a MS in Agricultural Extension Administration with a Kellogg Foundation Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Marion received the American Farmland Trust Local Hero's Award in May 2016; and

WHEREAS, Marion has served as an Assistant Professor of the Cooperative Extension Service at the Penn State University and held numerous positions in the Southeast and Capitol Regions of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Marion has served this community and provided leadership to numerous organizations here and throughout Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Marion's interest in farmland preservation goes back to 1955 when he called the first public meeting to discuss farmland preservation in Pennsylvania. It was not until 1987 that Pennsylvania voters had the opportunity to respond to a referendum on the general election ballot to approve funding for farmland preservation; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Legislature appropriated \$100,000 in 1988 and the Centre County Commissioner's appointed the Agricultural Land Preservation Board in 1989. Marion was appointed to the board in 1989 and has served as the Vice-Chairman ever since. In addition he is one of the founders of the Centre County Farmland Trust; and

WHEREAS, since that time Marion has witnessed the preservation of 57 farms totaling nearly 8,000 acres in Centre County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim September 27, 2016 as "*Marion Deppen Day*" and "*Farmland Preservation Day*" in Centre County and recognize and appreciate all the landowners for strengthening Pennsylvania's agricultural economy and protecting prime farmland.

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ADOPTED this 27th day of September, 2016.

Mark Higgins

Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

Denise L. Elbell, Acting Director

Administrative Services